

**Minutes
Board of Health Special Meeting
Chelan-Douglas Health District
June 1, 2020**

Jill Thompson, Mayor, Town of Waterville and Board of Health Chair, called the special meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. The meeting was held via Zoom video-conferencing and by phone. Participants could attend using either platform, with login information posted on the opening page of the CDHD web site.

Board Members Present:

Jill Thompson, Mayor, Town of Waterville
Doug England, Chelan County Commissioner
Kevin Overbay, Chelan County Commissioner
Marc Straub, Douglas County Commissioner
Dan Sutton, Douglas County Commissioner
John Sterk, East Wenatchee City Council
Ruth Esparza, Wenatchee City Council
Sharon Waters, Leavenworth City Council

Staff Present:

Barry Kling, Administrator
Dr. Malcolm Butler, Health Officer
Kandis Boersema, Associate Administrator, Fiscal and Support Services;
Carol McCormick, Associate Administrator for Personal Health
Veronica Farias, Health Communications Coordinator
Hilary Knelleken, Associate Administrator, Environmental Health

Board Discussion

Jill Thompson, Mayor, Board Chair, stated that the first item on the agenda was "Possible application for Movement to Phase II and opened the floor to comments and questions from Board members and CDHD staff.

Dan Sutton, Douglas County Commissioner, commented that he would like to proceed with a date that would move us to phase II.

Kevin Overbay, Chelan County Commissioner, concurred with Commissioner Sutton and asked Dr. Butler for his medical opinion.

Sharon Waters, Leavenworth City Council, asked if we had met all the criteria in the Governor's "Safe Start of Washington: Phased Reopening County-by-County" order in regards to personal protective equipment, ventilators, testing and testing sites in our counties and the other metrics that are required to move into phase IIs.

Dr. Malcolm Butler, CDHD Health Officer, stated that we have all those things in place and we are doing an excellent job having those things available. He was more concerned about the performance metrics.

Doug England, Chelan County Commissioner, stated that the application process seemed more flexible than last time and was under the impression that we would not need to meet all of the requirements.

Dr. Malcolm Butler, CDHD Health Officer, stated that he read it the same as well, and that it offers some hope. He stated that although we have one of the highest transmission rates in the State, it should not be a defining factor for us, since we are doing very well on all the other metrics.

Barry Kling, Administrator, added that having the support of our business community to be prepared for a safe reopening builds a strong case for us as well.

Jill Thompson, Mayor of Waterville and Board Chair, asked where we stood in regards to COVID-19 disease activity and reproductive rate.

Dr. Malcolm Butler, CDHD Officer, stated that our weekly rate of new cases per 100,000 population was somewhere around the 90 to 100 range and the reproductive rate was probably about 1.3 at the beginning of May.

Dr. Malcolm Butler, CDHD Officer, stated that after consulting with Barry and Dr. Rutherford and reviewing on our ongoing performance, he felt comfortable recommending a gradual reopening of the economy. He stated that he had prepared a formal statement according to the Governor's guidelines to move into phase II. Dr. Butler read the statement aloud and discussion followed.

Dr. Peter Rutherford, Confluence Health, gave his healthcare perspective on reopening the economy. Dr. Rutherford stated that it is time to reopen more aspects of our economy. He also stated that as a healthcare entity, they have managed very well and they have not been struggling since mid to late April. He is concerned however about ICU staffing and the

increase in non-COVID ICU admissions, at this moment we are not in trouble. They have a significant amount of PPE supplies and an adequate reservoir. He stated is very receptive and willing to participate in developing a program to help regulate the COVID-19 disease in our community including random testing. He also proposed to be able to increase and decrease if necessary the amount of economic activity in our community. He also agreed with Dr. Butler's comment that as a community, we need to be willing to monitor ourselves in this situation. He cautioned that a significant surge in cases could still be a severe threat to our community. Discussion followed.

Barry Kling, Administrator, proposed that the Board allow him and Dr. Butler to form a working group that would include a broad spectrum of the community to work on a proposal that would be a quality product to submit to the State.

Jill Thompson, Board Chair, entertained a motion to approve a working taskforce to work on a variance proposal. **Kevin Overbay, Chelan County Commissioner**, made a motion to approve a working taskforce to work on a variance proposal. **Ruth Esparza, Wenatchee City Council** seconded the motion it carried unanimously.

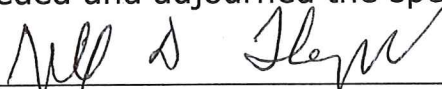
Chuck Zimmerman, CDHD Counsel, recommended for the Board to form a small committee with a few Board members to discuss issues and share ideas about the proposal and then follow up with the Board rather than it being the Board's full responsibility.

Kevin Overbay, Chelan County Commissioner and Dan Sutton, Douglas County Commissioner volunteered to be on the committee to review the preliminary variance proposal.

Ruth Esparza, Wenatchee City Council, made a motion to move into executive session to discuss potential litigation for 15 minutes. **Sharon Waters, Leavenworth City Council**, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Executive Session was adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

Jill Thompson, Board Chair, stated that there was no further action needed and adjourned the special meeting at 4:42 p.m.



Jill Thompson, Board Chair